The Freemason in the Rye, by Joe Atwill

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J D Salinger's Catcher in the Rye is a work with many mysteries attached to it. Perhaps the least of these is that, though the story is both incoherent and morally destructive, it has been forced-fed to adolescents by America's public school system for sixty years. A mystery more often cited by the public press, however, has been the book's odd association with assassinations.

In fact, among the assassins purportedly in possession of Catcher in the Rye were three of the most famous in history. Mark David Chapman, after he had shot and killed John Lennon, calmly opened his copy of Catcher in the Rye and proceeded to read it before being apprehended. John Hinckley was also carrying the book while attempting to kill Ronald Reagan. It is alleged that Lee Harvey Oswald had a copy in his apartment and that it was one of his favorite books, though this is disputed.

The strange cluster of individuals in possession of the book at the time they assassinated a famous person have led some to speculate that the book is somehow a trigger for 'mind controlled' subjects, as was the case for the assassin who was depicted in the book and film 'The Manchurian Candidate'.

In this article I will decode the symbolic framework of the Catcher in the Rye and this will explain why the assassins possessed it. The book was not a trigger for the murders, rather it was a warning to those who understood the book's occulted meaning. The warning was that they maintain silence about the doings of what Salinger described as a "secret fraternity" upon threat of death.

To start with the first thing, the title of the book has not been understood. The 'Catcher in the Rye' has a dual symbolic meaning. It links to a Robert Burns' poem that for some reason Holden Caulfield misquotes, as is well known. But what has been overlooked is that a 'catcher in the rye' is the scythe that the grim reaper holds and the phrase therefore can be seen as a representation of the Apocalypse.

On its surface, Catcher in the Rye appears to center on the internal life of Holden Caulfield, a neurotic seventeen year old who is expelled from his prep school. However, its symbolic meaning reveals a process whereby Caulfield, having failed to progress through Freemasonry's 'levels' in his first attempt, nevertheless perseveres and obtains the knowledge needed to rise up through the levels and learn the deepest secret of the "secret fraternity". Is is useful to recognize that Salinger appears to be following the levels of Freemasonry – to the extent that they are known – in the order a Mason would follow.

The kind of Freemasonry Salinger symbolically described was not the beneficial stereotype, but rather an organization with a sinister and secret agenda. At the book's conclusion, Holden Caulfield has become a 'Master Mason' and is permitted to enter the 'Holy of Holies'

to learn the ultimate secret of the Freemasons which, apparently, is that the “Sons of Light” as Robert Burns describes Freemasons, have sworn to implement an Apocalypse on all non-Masons and to kill anyone who exposes the organization’s plan

The Catcher in the Rye describes many ‘secrets’ that cannot be discussed. For example, the book begins with the central character, Holden Caulfield, noting “my parents would have about two hemorrhages apiece if I told anything pretty personal about them. They’re quite touchy about anything like that, especially my father.”

Given the analysis below. the personal details the father does not wished disclosed is his membership in a secret society – Freemasonry.

The central puzzle of The Catcher in the Rye is the identity of the “secret fraternity“ that existed in Holden Caulfield’s school and he had joined:

“And they had this goddam secret fraternity that I was too yellow not to join.”

To digress, it is noteworthy that Salinger attended high school at Valley Forge Military Academy, which has as its motto “Tria Juncta In Uno”, a pledge used in Masonic rites to symbolize unity. This suggests the school is where Salinger was introduced to Freemasonry and went through its basic levels and that The Catcher in the Rye was likely based upon Salinger’s high school experience.

To learn the identity of the “secret fraternity”, a reader must decode the book’s symbolic level. In other words, the experiences of Holden Caulfield represent something other than that of the book’s surface narration. Often Salinger is symbolically describing Freemason initiation rites with his descriptions of the travails of the neurotic teenager. This understanding enables Salinger’s hidden, murderous message to become comprehensible.

Catcher in the Rye’s symbolism is difficult to detect and has remained hidden from the public because the framework that much of it is based upon – the initiation rites of the Freemasons – are often secret and may not be uniform from one lodge to another. Fortunately, descriptions of many the rites have been published, and it is obvious when comparing the ‘type scenes’ in Catcher in the Rye to these descriptions that Salinger is connecting his story directly to them.

Studying ‘the Egyptians’ for 28 days

The first clue Salinger provides to the identity of the ‘secret society’ is given in a scene at the beginning of the book where Caulfield is discussing his grade with his history teacher, Mr. Spencer, who states that Caulfield “studied the Egyptians” for twenty-eight days and then failed a test about the subject.

“We studied the Egyptians from November 4th to December 2nd,” he said. “You chose to write about them for the optional essay question. Would you care to hear what you had to say?”

“No, sir, not very much,” I said.”

While the symbolism is oblique, once a reader adopts the correct interpretive framework, the meaning is transparent. The “secret fraternity” referred to above is the Freemasons, and the twenty-eight days spent studying the Egyptians refers to the period of studying a candidate must spend between the time of his initiation as an “Entered Apprentice”, to the time he takes the exam to become a second degree Mason.

One lodges' handbook describes this as follows: " Once the coach is confident the new brother has memorized the material and can proficiently recite it by memory, the meeting to "pass" the Entered Apprentice to the degree of Fellow Craft is scheduled. An Entered Apprentice cannot pass sooner than 28 days from his initiation."
Salinger is using the concept of the 'Egyptians' to represent the Freemasons because the organization claims lineage from the ancient Egyptians and uses their symbols in its rites. Understanding that Salinger is using "Egyptians' to represent Freemasonry is key to decoding the passage wherein Holden Caulfield is given the organization's deepest secret.

Sleeping in Eli's Bed

The next example of how Salinger weaves aspects of a Freemason's going through the initiations of the different levels is his passage depicting 'Ely's bed' — a concept he repeats three times. The passage is such an obvious depiction of the Freemason ritual it is surprising it has never been decoded before.

" That got him excited. "He did? No kidding? He did?"
I told him I was only kidding, and then I went over and laid down on Ely's bed. Boy, did I feel rotten. I felt so damn lonesome.
"This room stinks," I said. "I can smell your socks from way over here. Don'tcha ever send them to the laundry?"
"If you don't like it, you know what you can do," Ackley said. What a witty guy.
"How 'bout turning off the goddam light?"
I didn't turn it off right away, though. I just kept laying there on Ely's bed, thinking about Jane and all. It just drove me stark staring mad when I thought about her and Stradlater parked somewhere in that fat-assed Ed Banky's car. Every time I thought about it, I felt like jumping out the window. The thing is, you didn't know Stradlater. I knew him. Most guys at Pencey just talked about having sexual intercourse with girls all the time–like Ackley, for instance–but old Stradlater really did it. I was personally acquainted with at least two girls he gave the time to. That's the truth.
"Tell me the story of your fascinating life, Ackley kid," I said.
"How 'bout turning off the goddam light? I gotta get up for Mass in the morning." I got up and turned it off, if it made him happy. Then I laid down on Ely's bed again.
"What're ya gonna do–sleep in Ely's bed?" Ackley said. He was the perfect host, boy."
Salinger is symbolically describing the 'Introduction to the Prophetical Office', a rite of Freemasonry in which someone is described lying down in Eli's bed and the light being turned off. This is part of the ritual of the "Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch". (The scriptural quote is 1 Samuel 3.)
" In the introduction to the Prophetical Office the following passage is read: "And the child Samuel administered to the Lord before Eli. And it came to pass at that time when Eli was laid down in his place and his eyes began to wax dim that he could not see because the lamp of God went out in the temple of the Lord. And Samuel was laid down to sleep and the Lord called Samuel and he answered "Here I am for thou called me" And He said "Lie down again for I called not." (Freemason Manual, Jeremiah How, Ch. 16, p. 180.)

The 'people-shooting hat'

Salinger then brings up the most important image in the book, Caulfield's red 'people-shooting hat'. As is often the case in cryptic writing, the literal but unexpected meaning is the correct one. In other words, Holden will wear the hat while he is figuratively shooting people at the book's conclusion.
In Freemasonry, a red hat, often a fez, is associated with the both Shriners, and Scottish Rite Freemasonry, wherein a red cap can denote a Knight Commander of the Court of Honour.
" He took another look at my hat while he was cleaning them. "Up home we wear a hat like that to shoot deer in, for Chrissake," he said. "That's a deer shooting hat."
"Like hell it is." I took it off and looked at it. I sort of closed one eye, like I was taking aim at it. "This is a people shooting hat," I said. "I shoot people in this hat."
Notice that Salinger invokes the concept "one eye" in the passage. He does so to invoke the 'one eye' of Providence, or the ancient Egyptian Eye of Horus; or, if you prefer, the all-seeing 'eye of God' floating at the peak of the unfinished pyramid on the US dollar bill. It is, of course, a renowned symbol of Freemasonry. For Salinger, it is an eyeball taking aim down the barrel of a rifle, an evil eye, a harbinger of death and genocide.
Seeking the Hand of the Sighted One
Salinger then goes on to describe a 'blind person who seeks the hand of a sighted one." This is another representation of a known lower level Freemason initiation ritual wherein the initiate is blindfolded, holds the hand of his mentors, and then is knocked to the ground in imitation of the death of Hiram Abiff.
" I slid way the hell down in my chair and watched old Ackley making himself at home. I was feeling sort of tired from the trip to New York and all, and I started yawning. Then I started horsing around a little bit. Sometimes I horse around quite a lot, just to keep from getting bored. What I did was, I pulled the old peak of my hunting hat around to the front, then pulled it way down over my eyes. That way, I couldn't see a goddam thing. "I think I'm going blind," I said in this very hoarse voice. "Mother darling, everything's getting so dark in here."
"You're nuts. I swear to God," Ackley said.
"Mother darling, give me your hand, Why won't you give me your hand?"
"For Chrissake, grow up."
I started groping around in front of me, like a blind guy, but without getting up or anything. I kept saying, "Mother darling, why won't you give me your hand?" I was only horsing around, naturally. That stuff gives me a bang sometimes. Besides, I know it annoyed hell out of old Ackley. He always brought out the old sadist in me. I was pretty sadistic with him quite often. Finally, I quit, though. I pulled the peak around to the back again, and relaxed."
Then he really let one go at me, and the next thing I knew I was on the goddam floor again. I don't remember if he knocked me out or not, but I don't think so. It's pretty hard to knock a guy out, except in the goddam movies. But my nose was bleeding all over the place. When I looked up old Stradlater was standing practically right on top of me. He had his goddam toilet kit under his arm. "Why the hell don'tcha shut up when I tellya to?"
The lunatic that cut himself with stones

Later that night, as he is trying to go to sleep, Salinger shows his awareness of the typology in the Gospels with his reference to the story of the Demon of Gadara, from Mark 5:1-20 (also found in Luke 8:26-39). He understands that the Gospels' description of the 'lunatic' who "cut himself with stones" is deliberate wordplay. This is because a 'stone-cutter' is a 'Tekton', the Greek word for a stonemason, architect or Freemason.

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" I'm sort of an atheist. I like Jesus and all, but I don't care too much for most of the other stuff in the Bible. Take the Disciples, for instance. They annoy the hell out of me, if you want to know the truth. They were all right after Jesus was dead and all, but while He was alive, they were about as much use to Him as a hole in the head. All they did was keep letting Him down. I like almost anybody in the Bible better than the Disciples. If you want to know the truth, the guy I like best in the Bible, next to Jesus, was that lunatic and all, that lived in the tombs and kept cutting himself with stones. I like him ten times as much as the Disciples, that poor bastard."

In Caesar's Messiah the typology concerning the "lunatic" who 'cut himself with stones' is explained as follows:

" I noticed that at the conclusion of the siege of Jerusalem in Wars of the Jews, Simon and John both take refuge in subterranean caverns beneath Jerusalem. Eventually they are forced by starvation to come out of these "tombs" and surrender to the Romans. This event struck me as a parallel to the description of the demon-possessed men "coming out of the tombs" in the New Testament.

The passage in Wars of the Jews that describes these caverns confirms that they are indeed "tombs."

". . . the Romans slew some of them, some they carried captives, and others they made a search for underground, and when they found where they were, they broke up the ground and slew all they met with.

There were also found slain there above two thousand persons, partly by their own hands, and partly by one another, but chiefly destroyed by the famine;

but then the ill savor of the dead bodies was most offensive to those that lighted upon them, insomuch that some were obliged to get away immediately . . ."

As I have mentioned, the demon-possessed man at Gadara is described as "cutting himself with stones." Cutting oneself with "stones" is, of course, unusual—a stone is not a tool someone would normally use to cut with. What is the author of this passage actually referring to? I realized that if the demoniacs of Gadara are intended to satirize the rebel leaders, then there was a satiric answer to this question.

The phrase in the New Testament where the demoniac is "in the tombs . . . cutting himself with stones" shares a darkly humorous relationship with the passage in Wars of the Jews that describes the "tombs" that John and Simon take refuge in. The scornful joke comes from the unanswered question in Mark 5:5 – this question being, what does one call someone who cuts himself with stones? In a passage in Wars of the Jews relating to the rebel leader's hiding in the "tombs," one can see an ironic answer. Someone who cuts himself with stones is "stone-cut," and can therefore mockingly be called a "stone-cutter."

“This Simon, during the siege of Jerusalem, was in the upper city; but when the Roman army was gotten within the walls, and were laying the city waste, he then took the most faithful of his friends with him, and among them some that were stonecutters, with those iron tools which belonged to their occupation.”The War of the Jews 7:2:1

If, indeed, Salinger was aware of this entire typological scenario, then Caulfield was expressing that he felt the sympathy and identification with Simon and John, the actual heroes of the Jewish rebel movement.

The Freemason in the Rye

The most important puzzle to solve to understand the real meaning of Catcher in the Rye is Caulfield’s ‘misunderstanding’ of the freemason Robert Burns’ poem: ‘Coming through the Rye’. Caulfield overhears a child singing the song.

Here is one version of Burns poem:

“Coming thro’ the Rye” (1796)

Coming thro’ the rye, poor body,
Coming thro’ the rye,
She draiglet a’ her petticoatie
Coming thro’ the rye.
O, Jenny’s a’ wat, poor body;
Jenny’s seldom dry;
She draiglet a’ her petticoatie
Coming thro’ the rye.
Gin a body meet a body
Coming thro’ the rye,
Gin a body kiss a body—
Need a body cry?
Gin a body meet a body
Coming thro’ the glen,
Gin a body kiss a body—
Need the warld ken?

Even in the above G-rated version, the poem is clearly discussing a sexual encounter in the tall grass. Another, less well-known version spells it out.

Here is the ‘whorehouse’ version of the song that was sung in the Scottish pubs Robert Burns visited.

O gin a body meet a body,
Comin’ throu the rye:
Gin a body fuck a body,
Need a body cry.
Comin’ thro’ the rye, my jo,
An’ coming’ thro’ the rye;
She fand a staun o’ staunin’ graith,
Comin’ thro’ the rye.

Gin a body meet a body,
Comin' thro' the glen;
Gin a body fuck a body,
Need the warld ken.
Gin a body meet a body,
Comin' thro the grain;
Gin a body fuck a body,
Cunt's a body's ain.
Gin a body meet a body,
By a body's sel,
What na body fucks a body,
Wad a body tell.
Mony a body meets a body,
They dare na weel avow;
Mony a body fucks a body,
Ye wadna think its true.

In order to understand which version the child was singing requires recognizing the image given in the passage directly preceding the one in which the child is singing Burn's song.

" There was this record I wanted to get for Phoebe, called "Little Shirley Beans." It was a very hard record to get. It was about a little kid that wouldn't go out of the house because two of her front teeth were out and she was ashamed to. I heard it at Pencey. A boy that lived on the next floor had it, and I tried to buy it off him because I knew it would knock old Phoebe out, but he wouldn't sell it. It was a very old, terrific record that this colored girl singer, Estelle Fletcher, made about twenty years ago. **She sings it very Dixieland and whorehouse,** and it doesn't sound at all mushy."

Notice that the song 'Little Shirley Beans' is for children, but for some reason the singer gives a "whorehouse" version of the song. This is the framework the author wishes a reader to use in the next paragraph; where we encounter the description of the mysterious 'catcher' in the rye.

Holden believes he overhears a child singing, "If a body catch a body coming through the rye." This lyric does not occur in either version of the Burns song; the phrase is either "when a body meet a body" or "when a body fuck a body". Holden understands the words of the song in a way they were never written. The alert reader will recognize that the child is singing – as in the paragraph above – the "whorehouse" version of the song, which Caulfield will understand at the book's end.

Where Caulfield mistakenly heard 'catch', the child must have been singing 'fuck'. Salinger's 'real' title is therefore 'Fucker in the Rye' and this describes Caulfield's 'revelation' in the Freemason's holy of holies given below. In other words, the deepest secret of Freemasonry is "fuck you", which appears to be an Apocalypse to non-Freemasons and death to members that are traitors to the organization. Understanding that Salinger is relating to the 'fuck you' version of the song to allows the story's cryptic ending to be understood as shown below.

Walking the straight line

Notice that the child who is singing the song is walking is straight line. This is something that children seldom do, but is a requirement within Freemason lodges; which reveals the identity of the 'church' the family has just left.
" It wasn't as cold as it was the day before, but the sun still wasn't out, and it wasn't too nice for walking. But there was one nice thing. This family that you could tell just came out of some church were walking right in front of me–a father, a mother, and a little kid about six years old. They looked sort of poor. The father had on one of those pearl-gray hats that poor guys wear a lot when they want to look sharp. He and his wife were just walking along, talking, not paying any attention to their kid. The kid was swell. He was walking in the street, instead of on the sidewalk, but right next to the curb. He was making out like **he was walking a very straight line, the way kids do**, and the whole time he kept singing and humming. I got up closer so I could hear what he was singing. He was singing that song, "If a body **catch** a body coming through the rye." He had a pretty little voice, too. He was just singing for the hell of it, you could tell. The cars zoomed by, brakes screeched all over the place, his parents paid no attention to him, and he kept on walking next to the curb and singing "If a body **catch** a body coming through the rye." It made me feel better. It made me feel not so depressed any more."
Following his encounter with the singing child, Caulfield comes to a museum which he cannot enter. This is because the museum contains the 'ancient Egyptians' and represents a Freemason Temple with its holy of holies. Caulfield cannot go in because he does not yet have the knowledge that he needs to be permitted to be given the organization's deepest secret. This information will come from his encounter with Antolini.
"Then a funny thing happened. When I got to the museum, all of a sudden I wouldn't have gone inside for a million bucks. It just didn't appeal to me–and here I'd walked through the whole goddam park and looked forward to it and all. If Phoebe'd been there, I probably would have, but she wasn't. So all I did, in front of the museum, was get a cab and go down to the Biltmore."

Albert Pike thinks he's hot stuff

Salinger makes another cryptic homage to a famous freemason, this time to Albert Pike, the best known American freemason. "Al Pike" is described as someone who was "conceited". This is depicting Albert Pike's delineation between the vast intellect of high level Freemasons and those who are not permitted to enter the inner circle. I suspect that the cryptic story about 'Al Pike' is to suggest the level of Freemasonry Holden Caulfield will be initiated into below, which only allows those who are no longer in the 'Egyptian darkness'.
Notice that by Pike refers to low level Freemasons as being in an "Egyptian darkness", which supports our understanding that Salinger is using 'Egyptian' as a synonym for Freemasonry. Pike wrote:
" It should be noted, that the great majority of Masons are far from being "initiated" and "are grovelling **in Egyptian darkness"** (Chr., 1878, II, 28). "The Masonry of the higher degrees," says Pike[4], I, 311), "teaches the great truths of intellectual science;
Thus, Salinger's satirical depiction of Pike rings true:

“ She was dating this terrible guy, Al Pike, that went to Choate. I didn’t know him too well, but he was always hanging around the swimming pool. He wore those white Lastex kind of swimming trunks, and he was always going off the high dive. He did the same lousy old half gainer all day long. It was the only dive he could do, but he thought he was very hot stuff.”
Caulfield then describes his misunderstanding of Burns’ song to his sister. His confusion causes him to envision a future where he attempts to help children who are, for some reason, jumping off a cliff. Phoebe repeats the warning that “Daddy’s going to kill you.” We have already been told that Caulfield’s Daddy has secrets; in other words, that Daddy is a Freemason and will not approve of his helping the children of non’Masons. Notice that Phoebe’s warning is incoherent until the correct framework is applied.
“ I wasn’t listening, though. I was thinking about something else–something crazy. “You know what I’d like to be?” I said. “You know what I’d like to be? I mean if I had my goddam choice?”
“What? Stop swearing.”
“You know that song ‘If a body catch a body comin’ through the rye’? I’d like–” “It’s ‘If a body meet a body coming through the rye’!” old Phoebe said. “It’s a poem. By Robert Burns.”
“I know it’s a poem by Robert Burns.”
She was right, though. It is “If a body meet a body coming through the rye.” I didn’t know it then, though.
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“I thought it was ‘If a body catch a body,’” I said. “Anyway, I keep picturing all these little kids playing some game in this big field of rye and all. Thousands of little kids, and nobody’s around–nobody big, I mean–except me. And I’m standing on the edge of some crazy cliff. What I have to do, I have to catch everybody if they start to go over the cliff – I mean if they’re running and they don’t look where they’re going I have to come out from somewhere and catch them. That’s all I’d do all day. I’d just be the catcher in the rye and all. I know it’s crazy, but that’s the only thing I’d really like to be. I know it’s crazy.”
Old Phoebe didn’t say anything for a long time. Then, when she said something, all she said was, “Daddy’s going to kill you.”

Master Mason and Gaining Entry to the Inner Sanctum

Caulfield decides to go take a final lesson in the Craft, which will allow him to enter the holy of holies and learn the ultimate secret of Freemasonry. The lesson is to be given to him by Mr. Antolini. ‘Anto’ ‘lini’ means ‘different line’ and I suggest indicates a different messianic lineage than that of Christianity, the destruction of which appears to be a goal of Freemasonry.
“Mr. Antolini didn’t say anything for a while. He got up and got another hunk of ice and put it in his drink, then he sat down again. You could tell he was thinking. I kept wishing, though, that he’d continue the conversation in the morning, instead of now, but he was hot. People are mostly hot to have a discussion when you’re not.
“All right. Listen to me a minute now . . . I may not word this as memorably as I’d like to, but I’ll write you a letter about it in a day or two. Then you can get it all straight. But listen now, anyway.” He started concentrating again. Then he said, “This fall I think you’re riding for–it’s

a special kind of fall, a horrible kind. The man falling isn't permitted to feel or hear himself hit bottom. He just keeps falling and falling. The whole arrangement's designed for men who, at some time or other in their lives, were looking for something their own environment couldn't supply them with. Or they thought their own environment couldn't supply them with. So they gave up looking. They gave it up before they ever really even got started. You follow me?"
"Yes, sir."
"Sure?"
"Yes."
He got up and poured some more booze in his glass. Then he sat down again. He didn't say anything for a long time.
"I don't want to scare you," he said, "but I can very clearly see you dying nobly, one way or another, for some highly unworthy cause."
Antolini is suggesting that Holden Caulfield can either be in the 'secret fraternity' or die for a cause (that is, Christianity) that is worthless. This threat will be repeated at the story's conclusion and is the reason the book is associated with so assassinations.
" He gave me a funny look. "If I write something down for you, will you read it carefully? And keep it?"
"Yes. Sure," I said. I did, too. I still have the paper he gave me.
He went over to this desk on the other side of the room, and without sitting down wrote something on a piece of paper. Then he came back and sat down with the paper in his hand.
"Oddly enough, this wasn't written by a practicing poet. It was written by a psychoanalyst named Wilhelm Stekel. Here's what he–Are you still with me?"
Wilhelm Stekel, a colleague of Freud, like 'Al Pike' is another famous Mason. Stekel wrote "The Symbolism of Freemasonry", thus Salinger is providing a clue to understanding his book.
"Yes, sure I am."
The 'advice' Antolini writes down for Caulfield describes the fact that from now on he must live 'humbly' for a cause, that is, as a high level Mason he must live with a secret and without revealing its real purpose.
"Here's what he said: 'The mark of the immature man is that he wants to die nobly for a cause, while the mark of the mature man is that he wants to live humbly for one.'"
" He leaned over and handed it to me. I read it right when he gave it to me, and then I thanked him and all and put it in my pocket. It was nice of him to go to all that trouble. It really was. The thing was, though, I didn't feel much like concentrating. Boy, I felt so damn tired all of a sudden.
You could tell he wasn't tired at all, though. He was pretty oiled up, for one thing. "I think that one of these days," he said, "you're going to have to find out where you want to go. And then you've got to start going there. But immediately. You can't afford to lose a minute. Not you."
I nodded, because he was looking right at me and all, but I wasn't too sure what he was talking about. I was pretty sure I knew, but I wasn't too positive at the time. I was too damn tired.

Finally, Caulfield has the necessary knowledge – the understanding that he must live 'humbly' or without public flamboyance or disclosure of the cause he lives for. Antolini then administers the ceremony of the Master Mason which incorporates darkness and blows to the head in a symbolic and dramatic way, particularly in the reenactment of the Hiram Abiff legend:

Descriptions of the ceremony indicate that the candidate plays the role of Hiram Abiff, the mythical architect of Solomon's Temple, who is allegorically killed by three ruffians. During this ritual, the candidate may be placed in a position symbolizing death, often lying down in a darkened or symbolically "dark" state to represent mortality. While the lodge itself is not necessarily darkened, the candidate's experience of being "slain" and later "raised" (revived) by the Worshipful Master mirrors the darkness-to-light theme. The ritual includes symbolic blows, sometimes described as targeting the head, to represent Hiram's death. These are ceremonial and not physically harmful, often mimed or performed with minimal contact.

Of course, the initiated Mason is not supposed "to talk about it".

" Then something happened. I don't even like to talk about it.

I woke up all of a sudden. I don't know what time it was or anything, but I woke up. **I felt something on my head, some guy's hand.** Boy, it really scared hell out of me. What it was, it was Mr. Antolini's hand. What he was doing was, he was sitting on the floor right next to the couch, in the dark and all, and he was sort of petting me or patting me on the goddam head. Boy, I'll bet I jumped about a thousand feet.

"What the hellya doing?" I said.

"Nothing! I'm simply sitting here, admiring–"

"What're ya doing, anyway?" I said over again. I didn't know what the hell to say-

-I mean I was embarrassed as hell.

"How 'bout keeping your voice down? I'm simply sitting here–"

"I have to go, anyway," I said–boy, was I nervous! I started putting on my damn pants in the dark. I could hardly get them on I was so damn nervous. I know more damn perverts, at schools and all, than anybody you ever met, and they're always being perverty when I'm around."

Now that he has been initiated as a Master Mason Caulfield is ready to learn the deepest secret of the Freemasons, which is found within the Holy of Holies, a room inside the Freemason Temple.

The following is a description of the Holy of Holies that is inside every Freemason Temple:

"Every student of Jewish antiquities knows and every Freemason who has taken the Third Degree ought to knows, what was the peculiar construction, character, and uses of the Sanctum Sanctorum or Holly [sic] of Holies in King Solomon's Temple. Situated in the western end of the Temple, separated from the rest of the building by a heavy curtain, and enclosed on three sides by dead walls without any aperture or window, it contained the sacred Ark of the Covenant, and was secluded and set apart from all intrusion save of the High Priest, who only entered it on certain solemn occasions. As it was the most sacred of the three parts of the Temple, so has it been made symbolic of a Master's Lodge, in which are performed the most sacred rites of initiation in Ancient Craft Freemasonry.

As he leaves Antolini's home, Caulfield is shaken by a seeing a curse of 'Fuck you'. The message is ominous, particularly as it is was given with indelible handwriting on the wall.
" While I was walking up the stairs, though, all of a sudden I thought I was going to puke again. Only, I didn't. I sat down for a second, and then I felt better. But while I was sitting down, I saw something that drove me crazy. Somebody'd written "Fuck you" on the wall. It drove me damn near crazy. I thought how Phoebe and all the other little kids would see it, and how they'd wonder what the hell it meant, and then finally some dirty kid would tell them–all cockeyed, naturally–what it meant, and how they'd all think about it and maybe even worry about it for a couple of days. I kept wanting to kill whoever'd written it. I figured it was some perverty bum that'd sneaked in the school late at night to take a leak or something and then wrote it on the wall. I kept picturing myself catching him at it, and how I'd smash his head on the stone steps till he was good and goddam dead and bloody. But I knew, too, I wouldn't have the guts to do it. I knew that. That made me even more depressed. I hardly even had the guts to rub it off the wall with my hand, if you want to know the truth. I was afraid some teacher would catch me rubbing it off and would think I'd written it. But I rubbed it out anyway, finally.
I went down by a different staircase, and I saw another "Fuck you" on the wall. I tried to rub it off with my hand again, but this one was scratched on, with a knife or something. It wouldn't come off. It's hopeless, anyway. If you had a million years to do it in, you couldn't rub out even half the "Fuck you" signs in the world. It's impossible.
I looked at the clock in the recess yard, and it was only twenty to twelve, so I had quite a lot of time to kill before I met old Phoebe. But I just walked over to the museum anyway. There wasn't anyplace else to go. I thought maybe I might stop in a phone booth and give old Jane Gallagher a buzz before I started bumming my way west, but I wasn't in the mood. For one thing, I wasn't even sure she was home for vacation yet. So I just went over to the museum, and hung around.
While I was waiting around for Phoebe in the museum, right inside the doors and all, these two little kids came up to me and asked me if I knew where the mummies were. The one little kid, the one that asked me, had his pants open. I told him about it. So he buttoned them up right where he was standing talking to me–he didn't even bother to go behind a post or anything. He killed me. I would've laughed, but I was afraid I'd feel like vomiting again, so I didn't. "Where're the mummies, fella?" the kid said again. "Ya know?"
I horsed around with the two of them a little bit. "The mummies? What're they?" I asked the one kid.
"You know. The mummies–them dead guys. That get buried in them toons and all."
Toons. That killed me. He meant tombs.
"How come you two guys aren't in school?" I said.
"No school t'day," the kid that did all the talking said. He was lying, sure as I'm alive, the little bastard. I didn't have anything to do, though, till old Phoebe showed up, so I helped them find the place where the mummies were. Boy, I used to know exactly where they were, but I hadn't been in that museum in years."

In the next passage the two ‘brothers’ – experienced Freemasons – accompany Caulfield to the Holy of Holies. He is now ready to learn the truth.
“You two guys so interested in mummies?” I said. “Yeah.”
“Can’t your friend talk?” I said.
“He ain’t my friend. He’s my brudda.”
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“Can’t he talk?” I looked at the one that wasn’t doing any talking. “Can’t you talk at all?” I asked him.
“Yeah,” he said. “I don’t feel like it.”
Finally we found the place where the mummies were, and we went in.
“You know how the Egyptians buried their dead?” I asked the one kid. “Naa.”
“Well, you should. It’s very interesting. They wrapped their faces up in these cloths that were treated with some secret chemical. That way they could be buried in their tombs for thousands of years and their faces wouldn’t rot or anything. Nobody knows how to do it except the Egyptians. Even modern science.”
To get to where the mummies were, you had to go down this very narrow sort of hall with stones on the side that they’d taken right out of this Pharaoh’s tomb and all. It was pretty spooky, and you could tell the two hot-shots I was with weren’t enjoying it too much. They stuck close as hell to me, and the one that didn’t talk at all practically was holding onto my sleeve. “Let’s go,” he said to his brother. “I seen ’em awreddy. C’mon, hey.” He turned around and beat it.
“He’s got a yella streak a mile wide,” the other one said. “So long!” He beat it too.
Caulfield enters the inner sanctum and learns that Masonry’s deepest secret is “Fuck You”.
I was the only one left in the tomb then. I sort of liked it, in a way. It was so nice and peaceful. Then, all of a sudden, you’d never guess what I saw on the wall. Another “Fuck you.” It was written with a red crayon or something, right under the glass part of the wall, under the stones.”
As I interpret the passage, “Fuck You” is an oath taken to the death by all Masons in the high levels– it will be on their gravestones. Notice that there is no place on earth that one can escape this curse, indicating that the goal of the organization to have the planet to itself.
“ That’s the whole trouble. You can’t ever find a place that’s nice and peaceful, because there isn’t any. You may think there is, but once you get there, when you’re not looking, somebody’ll sneak up and write “Fuck you” right under your nose. Try it sometime. I think, even, if I ever die, and they stick me in a cemetery, and I have a tombstone and all, it’ll say “Holden Caulfield” on it, and then what year I was born and what year I died, and then right under that it’ll say “Fuck you.” I’m positive, in fact.”

Acceptance and commitment

At the story’s end Caulfield now has the ultimate knowledge, and understands his role as a Freemason. He no longer wishes to “catch” the children; rather he is a ‘fucker in the rye’ who lets them fall. He is wearing his shooting hat and is deliriously happy as he is soaked by falling rain. The horses on the merry go round symbolize the ‘four horsemen’ who ride at the Apocalypse where the ‘catcher in the rye’ gathers in the dead.

The “smoke in your eyes” and the ‘people shooting hat’ Caulfield is wearing both suggest he is firing a rifle. I believe Salinger is indicating that Caulfield is “so damn happy” because he is fantasying about murdering the children in his new role as Master Mason, though he could also be describing an actual mass murder.
“Maybe I will the next time. I’ll watch ya,” I said. “Got your ticket?”
“Yes.”
“Go ahead, then–I’ll be on this bench right over here. I’ll watch ya.” I went over and sat down on this bench, and she went and got on the carrousel. She walked all around it. I mean she walked once all the way around it. Then she sat down on this big, brown, beat-up-looking old horse. Then the carrousel started, and I watched her go around and around. There were only about five or six other kids on the ride, and the song the carrousel was playing was “Smoke Gets in Your Eyes.” It was playing it very jazzy and funny. All the kids kept trying to grab for the gold ring, and so was old Phoebe, and I was sort of afraid she’d fall off the goddam horse, but I didn’t say anything or do anything. The thing with kids is, if they want to grab the gold ring, you have to let them do it, and not say anything. If they fall off they fall off, but it’s bad if you say anything to them.
When the ride was over she got off her horse and came over to me. “You ride once, too, this time,” she said.
“No, I’ll just watch ya. I think I’ll just watch,” I said. I gave her some more of her dough. “Here. Get some more tickets.”
She took the dough off me. “I’m not mad at you any more,” she said.
“I know. Hurry up–the thing’s gonna start again.”
Then all of a sudden she gave me a kiss. Then she held her hand out, and said,
“It’s raining. It’s starting to rain.” “I know.”
Then what she did–it damn near killed me–she reached in my coat pocket and took out my red hunting hat and put it on my head.
“Don’t you want it?” I said.
“You can wear it a while.”
“Okay. Hurry up, though, now. You’re gonna miss your ride. You won’t get your own horse or anything.”
She kept hanging around, though.
“Did you mean it what you said? You really aren’t going away anywhere? Are you really going home afterwards?” she asked me.
“Yeah,” I said. I meant it, too. I wasn’t lying to her. I really did go home afterwards. “Hurry up, now,” I said. “The thing’s starting.”
She ran and bought her ticket and got back on the goddam carrousel just in time.
Then she walked all the way around it till she got her own horse back. Then she got on it. She waved to me and I waved back.
Boy, it began to rain like a bastard. In buckets, I swear to God. All the parents and mothers and everybody went over and stood right under the roof of the carrousel, so they wouldn’t get soaked to the skin or anything, but I stuck around on the bench for quite a while. I got pretty soaking wet, especially my neck and my pants. My hunting hat really gave me quite a lot of

protection, in a way; but I got soaked anyway. I didn't care, though. I felt so damn happy all of sudden, the way old Phoebe kept going around and around. I was damn near bawling, I felt so damn happy, if you want to know the truth. I don't know why. It was just that she looked so damn nice, the way she kept going around and around, in her blue coat and all. God, I wish you could've been there."

In the book's end Caulfield been sent off to some sort of rehabilitation camp on the West Coast, where he is being subjected to psychoanalysis, no doubt because of his experience at the merry go round.

" That's all I'm going to tell about. I could probably tell you what I did after I went home, and how I got sick and all, and what school I'm supposed to go to next fall, after I get out of here, but I don't feel like it. I really don't. That stuff doesn't interest me too much right now.

A lot of people, especially this one psychoanalyst guy they have here, keeps asking me if I'm going apply myself when I go back to school next September. It's such a stupid question, in my opinion. I mean how do you know what you're going to do till you do it? The answer is, you don't. I think I am, but how do I know? I swear it's a stupid question.

D.B. asked me what I thought about all this stuff I just finished telling you about. I didn't know what the hell to say. If you want to know the truth, I don't know what I think about it. I'm sorry I told so many people about it. About all I know is, I sort of miss everybody I told about. Even old Stradlater and Ackley, for instance. I think I even miss that goddam Maurice. It's funny. **Don't ever tell anybody anything. If you do, you start missing everybody."**

Salinger already indicated the fate that will be coming to Stradlater, Ackley, and Maurice. In a previous passage he used prefiguration typology to subtly indicate Caulfield's hostility towards them and the entire world. The passage shows Caulfield's anger towards non-Mason; at the end he expresses a genocidal desire to ride an atomic bomb – likely the inspiration for the similar scene in the masonic Apocalyptic film *Dr. Strangelove*.

" He once told Allie and I that if he'd had to shoot anybody, he wouldn't've known which direction to shoot in. He said the Army was practically as full of bastards as the Nazis were. I remember Allie once asked him wasn't it sort of good that he was in the war because he was a writer and it gave him a lot to write about and all. He made Allie go get his baseball mitt and then he asked him who was the best war poet, Rupert Brooke or Emily Dickinson. Allie said Emily Dickinson. I don't know too much about it myself, because I don't read much poetry, but I do know it'd drive me crazy if I had to be in the Army and be with a bunch of guys like Ackley and Stradlater and old Maurice all the time, marching with them and all. I was in the Boy Scouts once, for about a week, and I couldn't even stand looking at the back of the guy's neck in front of me. They kept telling you to look at the back of the guy's neck in front of you. I swear if there's ever another war, they better just take me out and stick me in front of a firing squad. I wouldn't object. …Anyway, I'm sort of glad they've got the atomic bomb invented. If there's ever another war, I'm going to sit right the hell on top of it. I'll volunteer for it, I swear to God I will."

The line above: "Don't ever tell anybody anything. If you do, you start missing everybody" records that high-level Freemason must maintain the order's secrets in strictest confidence or else they will start "missing everybody" – in other words be killed. This line was why the

book was present at so many assassinations, to remind those who have sworn the oath to remain silent or be killed.
In an interview in Playboy magazine published just weeks before he was assassinated, John Lennon stated that while he still respected 'craftsmen' he didn't want to be a 'craftsman' any longer. However, you cannot discuss any criticism of the 'craft' in public and this why his assassin was holding a copy of Catcher in the Rye as he stood over Lennon's dead body waiting to be arrested.
Salinger's warning repeated the one given by another Freemason, Mark Twain's, at the conclusion of Tom Sawyer
"When are you going to start the gang and turn robbers?"
"Oh Right off. We'll get the boys together and have the initiation tonight."
"Have the which?"
"Have the initiation."
"What's that?"
"It's to swear to stand by one another and never tell the gang's secrets, even if you're chopped all to flinders, and kill anybody and all his family that hurts one of the gang."
Twain's warning shows how long and how far-ranging the Freemasons' control of culture and the political system has been. It exerts its pernicious influence over much of what we call democracy and popular culture, either alone, or as part of a many-tentacled system involving other equally secretive organizations. Hopefully the truth will come to light soon. This needs to happen because as Salinger wrote:
" That's the whole trouble. You can't ever find a place that's nice and peaceful, because there isn't any. You may think there is, but once you get there, when you're not looking, somebody'll sneak up and write "Fuck you" right under your nose."
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Trim Comments?

1. obwandiyag says:
   Uhhh, I doubt it.

   • **Agree:** Gordo
   ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

2. Andrew A. says:
   Lost me at Lee Harvey Oswald assassinating JFK. Nope.

   • **Agree:** Complex Pseudonymic Handle, Lee-OH Rising
   ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

3. Wayne Lusvardi says:
   I vaguely remember in junior high school having to read The Catcher in the Rye. As a working class kid I thought this is some sort of book dealing with abstract meanings that only rich kids could understand or be patient enough to try to decipher. It was like algebra to me – a method to find an unknown number from known numbers. But why do all the abstract math when I could figure out the unknown number in more concrete ways? When much later when I became a real estate appraiser, I had to find the unknown market value of a property I wouldn't dare use abstract algebra that a client or homeowner couldn't understand. I had to use methods that others could follow. So, I always thought Catcher in the Rye was a book for those predisposed to looking for secret meanings while in the real concrete world one could not afford secretiveness. But it was the underlying anti-Christian meaning I never understood until I read Atwill.

   I grew up next to a Masonic Lodge temple. I never quite understood what Masons were about except they were anti-Catholic. I remember their members were found to have committed embezzlement and doing prison time for the crime. I now know them to be a part of a worldwide network of secret societies headed in Britain that have fomented many wars and were more likely the true founding fathers of the US, as shown on the face of the US dollar bill.

   For anyone who might be remotely interested see my article Beware of Christian Anticommunists Spieling "Live Not By Lies" – where I use Joe Atwill's method of analyzing propaganda and apply it to Alexander Solzhenitsyn's fraudulent Gulag Archipelago – link https://waynelusvardi.substack.com/p/beware-of-christian-anticommunists

4. Wayne Lusvardi says:
   @Andrew A.
   Atwill did not mean to infer that Oswald was a singular assassin of JFK but that Oswald was rumored to have a copy of the Catcher in the Rye that might have been given him by, say, a CIA groomer.

   • **Agree:** JR Foley
   ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

5. Wayne Lusvardi says:
   What Atwill has taught me is that cultural elites, especially J's, have a secret genre of revenge they use in literature, movies and plays that is anti-Christian and anti-Anglo/anti-Gentile. They have been using it for centuries and it is passed to others apparently through Judaism or secular ethnic schools and family networks.

   Using my algebra analogy from my earlier comment, cultural elites also have their own secret mathematics – algebra. But with hand held calculators and AI algebra as a shorthand method of calculation and extrapolation is unnecessary and outmoded.

   ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

6. Gerry says:
   If you haven't seen this essay and website your missing out. One should especially love the last paragraph given Salinger quote! "Right up your nose"

   https://vigilantcitizen.com/sinistersites/sinister-sites-irs-headquarters-maryland/

   • **Replies:** @Wayne Lusvardi
   ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

7. James N. Kennett says:
   Even if these Masonic allusions were intended by Salinger, it is doubtful that any assassin was influenced by them. More likely they simply identified with Caulfield as a school dropout who believed the world was against him but could not figure out why.

   • **Agree:** ariadna, Flo
   ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

8. Brás Cubas says:
   August 12, 2025 at 12:17 am GMT • 21.5 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
   Great article (I had already read it). There seem to be two wildly contradictory claims about Freemasons, one that they are perfectly harmless and irrelevant, and that their secrecy is just a sort of childish game; the other that they are powerful and influential, and more than a bit sinister. I am completely in the dark about this topic. I'm not sure this website has ever run an article about this phenomenon (aside from this one, which just touches the theme).

9. Tennessee Jed says:
   August 12, 2025 at 2:28 am GMT • 19.3 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
   In years past across the rural South, Masons ran and controlled most small towns. The mayor, judge, sheriff and his deputies, county clerk, tax collector were all Masons. They also made up a large portion of any local Klan. They were the law and order and were not to be trifled with. People would scare themselves saying “There ain’t a well between Gainesville and Birmingham that don’t have a body in it” lol. Full disclosure my maternal grandfather was a Mason of some rank. He died before I was born but I’ve heard over the years that he was a real nasty SOB.

   • **Replies:** @chris
   ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

10. Trinity says:
    August 12, 2025 at 4:37 am GMT • 17.2 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
    I read Catcher In The Rye years before I became Jew wise in the 1990s, I was like why is this tripe so hyped up? Now I know why. Salinger’s father was a Jew, and they claim his mother was allegedly Scots-Irish who changed her first name to appease her Jewish in-laws according to (((Wikipedia.))) Salinger’s father according to (((Wiki))) was a rabbi in Louisville, Kentucky of all places. Don’t laugh, Albany, Ga, a town that is now 75 % nigra has had a synagogue there forever. We are talking South, Georgia not Atlanta or surrounding areas. Salinger looks like a Jew if I ever saw one, not a hint of Scots-Irish that I see in that face, body or pysche for sure. The book was typical Jewy whining. Skimmed the article and discarded it into the .

    ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

11. Wayne Lusvardi says:
    August 12, 2025 at 5:08 am GMT • 16.7 hours ago • 200 Words ↑
    Summary of The Catcher in the Rye Enigma by James and Lance Morgan – JD Salinger's Mind Control Triggering Device or a Coincidental Literary Obsession by Criminals? (2016)

    The Catcher in the Rye Enigma unearths mysteries surrounding the 1951 novel The Catcher In The Rye by JD Salinger. Nicknamed the 'Bible of teenage angst' the classic novel, which is frequently labeled immoral by different groiu0s, has been banned in various parts of America over the decades. However, the main controversy, and indeed the most common reason for it being banned, was that it either inspired or was associated with some of the most infamous crimes of the 20th century. These crimes include the murder of John Lennon and the attempted assassination of Ronald Reagan.

    The allegation directed at Salinger is that he (and/or his publisher) craftily implanted into the book neurolinguistic passages, or coded messages, that act as post-hypnotic suggestions or mind control 'triggers'. In turn, these triggers enable CIA handlers to activate Manchurian Candidates for assassinations.

    ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

12. Lee Harvey Oswald an assassin?

    Since when?

    Back and to the left. Back and to the left. Back and to the left.

    All the ducks I shot at, while visiting duck shooting galleries, fell backward.

    Not a single one keeled over toward me.

    • **Agree:** Lee-OH Rising
    • **Replies:** @Anonymous534, @Captain Jones
    ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

13. nokangaroos says:
    I wouldn´t read too much into it – after all the *Catcher* is just the genitally-mutilated rehash of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe´s *Die Leiden des jungen Werther*, a sickly works that incurred its own share of controversy because it caused a rash of youth suicide-as-a-fashion-statement

    • **Replies:** @Dieter Kief
    ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

14. anonymous[309] • Disclaimer says:
August 12, 2025 at 5:53 am GMT • 15.9 hours ago • 300 Words ↑
Often people roll their eyes and scoff at mentions of ‘Freemasonry’ as running things behind the scenes, but eventually one sees it is a thing

The essence of it is that the ‘secret society’ vehicle, as well as being psychologically attractive to those who can participate, is the way that individuals can assemble to self-serve and be traitors to their race and people

Freemasonry operates in similar ways to – and in partnership with – Jewry. You have multiple levels, ranging from:
(1) overall not very individually harmful – just a ‘member’ of a club / an ethnicity – to
(2) medium level of influence, helping out fellow members / ethnics to advance and hold sway – to
(3) ultra-high level, fostering crime and abuse and undermining common good
with the highest ‘inner’ levels aided by the ‘useful idiots’ on the lower levels.

Gentiles with their large populations tend to have multiple publicly-known ‘clubs’ that operate as quasi ‘secret societies’ … Bohemian Grove, Skull & Bones, the Washington DC ‘prayer breakfasts’, Davos, Bilderberg etc … but it seems that Freemasons are the most ancient and quietly pervasive of them, having the additional aspect that commoners feel silly mentioning them as consequential

And Masons are just about everywhere – the largest ‘secret society’ of India is that of Freemasons, hundreds of lodges, there since the 1700s, Nehru’s father was a Freemason etc … Iran’s Ayatollah Khomeini was the son of a British Freemason named Williamson … George Washington and the US Founding Fathers … the 1789 French revolutionaries … and on and on. Leading Jews sometimes speak of Freemasons as their top gentile asset … but for whom they still have contempt

15. James J. O'Meara says:
    August 12, 2025 at 7:31 am GMT • 14.3 hours ago • 200 Words ↑

    > There seem to be two wildly contradictory claims about Freemasons, one that they are perfectly harmless and irrelevant, and that their secrecy is just a sort of childish game; the other that they are powerful and influential, and more than a bit sinister.

    Not necessarily opposed views; “They” might well be powerful and influential,” yet inclined to childish games. Caligula thought he was Jupiter incarnate; Pope Benedict thinks he’s “the vicar of Christ on Earth”; people who think Menachem Schneerson was the Messiah hold high positions in Israel and advise D. Trump, “the most powerful man on Earth.”

    Another alternative: the games amuse them, and make those trying to expose them look silly. They choose dates and places to show off their knowledge of science and history (the way scribes from Egypt to Mediaeval Christendom would try to stump each other with riddles and anagrams). When the elite come of age, their father and his counsel of advisors reveal the tricks and codes to them.

    It doesn’t matter if *you* believe it, only that *they* believe it, or pretend to.

    ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

16. Another Polish Perspective says:
    August 12, 2025 at 7:56 am GMT • 13.9 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
    @Brás Cubas
    Yes, exactly.
    This is the first article on freemasonry (or secret societies) I read on unz. It is pretty shocking. So much on Jews and nothing on masonry (and yet there are Jews-only lodges), that I started to suspect some masonic influence behind this site, simply because they were the one entity never named here.

    Masons are both: they do support all kinds of charities, but they are sinister controlling entity too. They usually appear in public as “unnamed friends”. For example, Pope Francis tomb was funded by anonymous friends, people who cannot disclose their names by the rule (who would be ashamed of funding a tomb for a pope?). This is not the first case of a suspicious character whose tomb was funded like that. Then , who was really a tomb’s incumbent…?

    ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

17. James J. O'Meara says:
August 12, 2025 at 8:02 am GMT • 13.8 hours ago • 300 Words ↑

> ‘Anto’ ‘lini’ means ‘different line’ and I suggest indicates a different messianic lineage than that of Christianity, the destruction of which appears to be a goal of Freemasonry.

All this stuff is interesting and all, but I have a simpler story. See, Salinger is a Jew, which is the “secret society” he’s in (born in, although they have a “bar mitzvah” ritual to make you a full member) As such, he gets all the perks: fame, money, etc. for doing sweet fuck all.

His famous “books” were written for him (which is why his early stuff stinks, and he stopped “writing” for the last 50 years of his life) by some Jewish version of the spooks at Langley, a team who amused themselves by using bits and pieces of Masonic and other “symbols” rather than creating characters and a story. (It’s easier that way, you just string symbols onto a ready-made framework). The “books” are then published, reviewed, and bought by Jews, laundering the money. Sometimes, if you’re really connected, they can get Jewish teachers to force the goyim to read (or buy, which is all you need) the books for school. Then they grow up and write articles and learned essays on the symbolism. Launder, rinse, repeat.

Then, like Salinger, you retire to a nice, White part of the country (New Hampshire) and seduce little girls with your “fame” and “talent.” That’s the “catcher in the rye,”

There hasn’t been any real “literature” since the end of WWII, only goyslop turned out to aggrandized Jews and demoralize Whites. [*]

[*] Except for Gore Vidal and Kurt Vonnegut, both being what Vidal called “OK goys.”

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

18. Sakkie Visasem says:
Not a bad article, but the topography is so bad that one doesn’t know when the author is writing or quoting, or whether even the character in the book is quoting. It makes for difficult reading.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

19. Another Polish Perspective says:
August 12, 2025 at 8:32 am GMT • 13.3 hours ago • 200 Words ↑
"The people shooting-hat"

It is about human sacrifice, not apocalypse per se. Humans are like sacrificial deers. Deer was a holy animal of gods in many pagan societies.

Anyway, the very good depiction of the concept is in movie "The killing of a sacred deer" by the Jorgos Lanthimos, whose other movies are also influenced by occult (for example, Oscar winning "Poor things' is about the first creation of man/woman, with strees on its promiscuity, the main character becoming literally a prostitute, and later marrying his beloved brown man, becoming literally a couple from "The Song of Songs" ascribed to King Solomon, so beloved by masons.

Anyway, in "The Killing of a sacred deer" a family must kill one of its members (it obviously happens to be a child) to avert misfortunes which fall on them one by one.

There are many killings of sacred deers in USA – they are commonly known as school shootings. They never happen in hospitals. A sacrifice cannot be ill or suicidal or bought.

And remember the first human sacrfice – of Abel by Cain.
Why masons remember Cain's name so fondly…?

The one thing I disagree is that masons want to bring about Apocalypse. No, they want to avert this God's Judgement. Jachim and Boaz, two columns of their "altar" are supposed to be made of wood and of clay, to surive The Flood or the The Fire.

• **Agree:** Dieter Kief
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

20. Captain Jones says:
August 12, 2025 at 9:14 am GMT • 12.6 hours ago • 200 Words ↑
@Daniel Rich

> Lee Harvey Oswald an assassin?
>
> Since when?

Since you or nobody else since it happened can provide a concise & practical alternative that doesn't involve 'grassy knoll' gunmen, storm drain sewer marksmen, shooting directly through windshields, etc. all (that's when)

And please, do not bother with your memorized nonsense of asinine factoids & rehashed talking points (I have literally heard them all fifty times over) Understand too, I endorse a plot to kill Kennedy without also endorsing fantastical nonsense in regard to the sniper attack itself (you can hold such a position) You don't have to turn it into a flashlight under the chin, campfire circle experience just for the sake of that.

To some other comments…

As far as the novel, Atwill is in no way inferring the book itself is a mind controlling device. He proposes it's more of a calling card of sorts (a prop) to be connected to these high profile shootings as an indicator to the fellow Masonic order in the know, that it was a Masonic hit and to encourage they do not stray from their oaths to secrecy.

• **Thanks:** TimE
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

21. Rob misek says:
August 12, 2025 at 9:40 am GMT • 12.1 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
In preparation for the ZOG apocalypse.

These are the seven Jewish Noahide laws signed into law after a joint resolution by every US president since George Bush.

I didn't know the nation was founded on them, did YOU?

Do you also recognize the penalty for breaking any one of them is decapitation? The only due process being the statement of a single witness.

The seven Noahide laws as traditionally enumerated in the Babylonian Talmud Sanhedrin 56a-b and Tosefta Avodah Zarah

Not to worship idols.
Not to curse God.
Not to commit murder.
Not to commit adultery or sexual immorality.
Not to steal.
Not to eat flesh torn from a living animal.
To establish courts of justice.

What idols? What god? Courts where due process is nothing more than the testimony of a single witness.

• **Replies:** @GoySoy2
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

22. Anonymous[264] • Disclaimer says:
It is articles like this that cause innocent people to end up standing on a street corner in apocalyptic Kensington, slumped forward in a paralytic bow while staring mindlessly at their dirty naked feet.

We beg you, Ron. Please, no more.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

23. GoySoy2 says:
August 12, 2025 at 9:57 am GMT • 11.9 hours ago • 200 Words ↑
freemasonry is a jewish psyop to corrupt religions. It started to corrupt Christians after the Reformation, and later all religions (especially hinduism and buddhism). It is based on the kabbalah, and their god is lucifer. The only criteria to join is to believe in a creator/supreme being. It is a mix of torah, Gnosticism and talmud. On the lower level it looks like a spiritual Rotary club, but the higher you go in the pyramid, the more "knowledge" will be received, and at the end drawn towards the luciferian system.

They change Jesus to lucifer as the creator of the physical world, and they use specifically Colossians 1:15-16 (KJV):

15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature

16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him

In the luciferian system it is to worship and desire the physical world and pleasures.

Compare this to 1 John 2 : 15-17 (KJV):

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

24. GoySoy2 says:
August 12, 2025 at 10:43 am GMT • 11.1 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Rob misek
The noahide laws are made to target specifically Christianity, the true enemy of the jews. jews do not think muslims/islam are idolaters. jews and muslims are like siblings arguing, but have the same father; lucifer.

The atheists who fight jews and Christians got it wrong. It is not like:
"the enemy of my enemy is my enemy".

• **Replies:** @Another Polish Perspective
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

25. Dieter Kief says:
August 12, 2025 at 10:45 am GMT • 11.1 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@nokangaroos

> *The Catcher* is just the genitally-mutilated rehash of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe´s Die Leiden des jungen Werther, a sickly works that incurred its own share of controversy because it caused a rash of youth suicide-as-a-fashion-statement

Intersting parallel – but *The Catcher* is not suicidal at all. – The Catcher is the *Soft Machine* version of Goethe's *Sufferings of Young Werther*. – It lacks the real (= the oedipal / the harsh) depth of Goethe's work.

– Which was the self-healing cure for the young Goethe – and this cure impressed very much Napopleon Bonaparte.

– So much so, that this frenchman carried young Goethe's book along – even in the battlefields. – And even though he knew long stretches of it by heart already…

• **Replies:** @Abdul Alhazred
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

26. SturmUndDrang says:
Here's where this article originally appeared, as well as others by Joe. The typesetting is better there:
https://postflaviana.org/freemason-rye/

I have recommended this article many times over the years. It is the best single critique of "Catcher" I've seen.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

27. Another Polish Perspective says:
@GoySoy2
But what's wrong with the Noahide laws anyway?

They are pretty straightforward morality .

Or do you miss your animal nature like the creatures in "The Island of Doctor Moreau" and want to eat animals alive?

28. James N. Kennett says:
@anonymous

> Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini was the son of a British Freemason named Williamson

According to Wikipedia Ayatollah Khomeini's father was Mustafa Musawi.

Unless you can provide a source for the alleged quote by Herzl, we can assume that this too is a product of your imagination.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

29. Another Polish Perspective says:
@Another Polish Perspective
The ban on idols is part of Ten Commandments, which are part of Christianity:

You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

Exodus, 20:4

• **Replies:** @anonymous
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

30. Anon[105] • Disclaimer says:
Real eyes ….realize…..real lies

911 was an awesome deception!

Wonder what book did the perpetrators read?

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

31. James N. Kennett says:
A search for hidden meaning in the rituals of Freemasonry would be productive. Of course, others have already tried this.

Albert Pike appears to have deliberately infused his "Scottish Rite" with Luciferian phrases and imagery – mostly lifted from *Paradise Lost*.

• **Replies:** @Zumbuddi
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

32. matslinger says:
August 12, 2025 at 11:47 am GMT • 10.0 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
I read 2 paragraphs of this and sh*t canned it! …that three assassinations were tied to a book? !!!

More engineered consent that got past Ron's coffee filter! For one , I'd like to see a DNA
match on Hinkley! I'll bet LARGE money he's not even a member of the Hinkley family , who
BTW were OIL RICH friends of Daddy Bush.

As Far as Lee Harvey ? he was a Loose end in the SR40 (CIA) cancer Vaccine conspiracy.

John was a powerful anti government ICON! who actually said, he could be found dead some day for calling government the fraud that it is.

This writer should learn to embed his propaganda in the middle of his fiction, not at the very beginning…. what a big waste of kilobytes.

• **Agree:** Lee-OH Rising
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

33. Zumbuddi says:
August 12, 2025 at 11:52 am GMT • 9.9 hours ago • 300 Words ↑
(notes in my notebook)

> AI: "*Tria juncta in uno"* is a Latin phrase meaning "three joined in one." It is the motto of the Order of the Bath, a British order of chivalry. The phrase can refer to the union of England, Scotland, and Ireland, or to the Holy Trinity. **The Order of the Bath's badge** and insignia often feature three crowns, reflecting this motto.

Order of the Bath:

> AI: The Order of the Bath is the fourth most senior order of merit in Britain, following the Orders of the Garter, the Thistle, and the (dormant) Order of St. Patrick. It ranks above other orders and decorations in the British honours system. Within the Order, there are three classes: Knights and Dames Grand Cross (GCB), Knights and Dames Commander (KCB/DCB), and Companions (CB).
> The Order of the Bath was founded in 1725 by George I and its name comes from a medieval ceremony involving bathing as a symbol of purification. The Order consists of the Sovereign, the Great Master (currently vacant but was previously held by the Prince of Wales), and the three classes of members.
> Here's a more detailed breakdown of the order of precedence:
> Sovereign: The reigning monarch is the Sovereign of the Order.
> Great Master: The Great Master is second in the order of precedence, but this position is currently vacant.
> Knights and Dames Grand Cross (GCB): This is the highest class within the Order, with a maximum of 120 members.
> Knights and Dames Commander (KCB/DCB): The second class of the Order, with a maximum of 295 members.
> Companions (CB): The third and lowest class of the Order, with a maximum of 1455 members.

If Frank Sinatra had an iPhone, would he have passed the time by checking his messages not playing Solitaire.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

34. Gerry says:
Many years ago on the Henry Makow website i saw a picture of the all seeing eye of Jahbulon painted on the floor of one of the parking garages of the twin towers. Raised many questions and continues to!

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

35. Abdul Alhazred says:
@Dieter Kief
Thanks….care to say more re your:

> – Which was the self-healing cure for the young Goethe – and this cure impressed very much Napopleon Bonaparte.

?

• **Replies:** @Dieter Kief
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

36. GoySoy2 says:
August 12, 2025 at 12:13 pm GMT • 9.6 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Another Polish Perspective
Of course a jew will defend a jewish court deciding whether or not to execute Christians.

"A Noachide is executed for every type of foreign worship which a Jewish court would consider worthy of capital punishment. However, a Noachide is not executed for a type of foreign worship which a Jewish court would not deem worthy of capital punishment. Nevertheless, even though a Noachide will not be executed for these forms of worship, he is forbidden to engage in all of them".

https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/1188354/jewish/Melachim-uMilchamot-Chapter-9.htm

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

37. H. X. Bell says:
August 12, 2025 at 12:26 pm GMT • 9.4 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Wayne Lusvardi

> It was like algebra to me – a method to find an unknown number from known numbers. But why do all the abstract math when I could figure out the unknown number in more concrete ways? When much later when I became a real estate appraiser, I had to find the unknown market value of a property I wouldn't dare use abstract algebra that a client or homeowner couldn't understand. I had to use methods that others could follow.

Mathematician Morris Kline thought it was stupid to force kids to learn all kinds of math subjects which the vast majority will never use in their life.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

38. Leif says:
August 12, 2025 at 12:26 pm GMT • 9.4 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@anonymous
Help please guys/gals- is that Theodor Herzl quote real and of corroborated origin?

I have so far not been able to find any real objective source for it, has anyone among you?
All search-engine searches seem to just end in loop-sourcing, rater obscure authors/social media posters quoting each other..

And the fact that they usually aren`t even able to spell his name (“Herzl”, from “Loebl” which is the Hebrew for heart= in German “Herz”: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theodor_Herzl#Early_life) makes this appear definitively worthy of at least scrutiny..

• **Replies:** @A_Hand_Hidden
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

39. anonymous[363] • Disclaimer says:
August 12, 2025 at 12:47 pm GMT • 9.0 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Another Polish Perspective
The funny thing about the 10 commandments is that they give away the entire game right from the get-go.

Commandment #1: You shall have no other gods before Me.

This means God (Yahweh) knows he’s not the only so-called ‘God’.

Oops. There goes monotheism.

What a load of nonsense. The first four commandments are basically a petulant, jealous control-freak trying to convince us that he’s the Boss.

Where’s the commandment against slavery? Against child abuse? Against fucking RAPE?

The sooner we abandon these ludicrous fairy tales from the childhood of our species, the sooner we can move on to solving actual problems.

40. Rob misek says:
    @anonymous
    You’re under no obligation to follow the 10 commandments, unlike the actual Noahide laws in the US, which today demand your execution for not following them.

    Trump with his gulags and advocacy for genocide is just the president to enact them

    • **Replies:** @Wayne Lusvardi
    ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

41. Zumbuddi says:
    August 12, 2025 at 1:12 pm GMT • 8.6 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
    @James N. Kennett
    Just finished reading Thomas Hardy, Mayor of Casterbridge.

    Casterbridge is fictitious, based on Dorcester in Dorset where Hardy grew up.

    Hardy makes several references to the Roman soldiers buried in the fields of Casterbridge and whose bones are occasionally turned up by farmers.

    One could interpret these references in fiction to Hardy’s/the English homage to the foundations to English society established by noble Romans.

    Or just as readily, to English hatred of Romans extending to Roman Catholicism.

    ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

42. Zumbuddi says:
August 12, 2025 at 1:24 pm GMT • 8.4 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Wayne Lusvardi
My high school algebra teacher was coach for the freshman football team. I passed the course by preparing his scouting sheets. Didn't learn the first thing about finding the value of X.

In my 50s, I enrolled in a community college course in Algebra. I was enchanted, hooked. It made such eminent good sense. The flyleaf of the textbook said, "Mathematics is the language with which god wrote the universe," attributed to Galileo. That impressed me.

Algebra is a 'middle eastern' (Arabs and Persians fight over who invented 'algebra') invention/word, meaning, "the arrangement of the bones."

I traveled in Iran and took dozens of photos of windows. Intricately crafted/fitted/joined windows.
A materialized presentation of algebra.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

43. August 12, 2025 at 1:25 pm GMT • 8.4 hours ago • 200 Words ↑

> The Catcher in the Rye describes many ‘secrets’ that cannot be discussed. For example, the book begins with the central character, Holden Caulfield, noting “my parents would have about two hemorrhages apiece if I told anything pretty personal about them. They’re quite touchy about anything like that, especially my father.”
>
> Given the analysis below. the personal details the father does not wished disclosed is his membership in a secret society – Freemasonry.

And Freemasonry is a crypto-jew network.

“Holden Caulfield” is a depiction of a jew masquerading as a WASP. Many Anglo-Zionists ae jews masquerading as WASPs.

Some “dumb goyim” understand this and aren’t so dumb. Other dumb goyim can’t or won’t see this and are doomed to fall to the Antichrist Synagogue of Satan unless they wise up quick.

Wising up means hitting back at jews like Iran hit back at jews. And like Christ did.

Watch Video At: https://youtu.be/o9mJ82x_I-E

Video Link

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

44. Abhuman says:
August 12, 2025 at 1:36 pm GMT • 8.2 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@anonymous
There isn’t even a commandment against killing in general. I think the Torah actually stipulates that you can’t murder your fellow Jew. Gentiles are in the same category as livestock, and there isn’t any indication in the Torah that you should be a respecter of life in general. You don’t want to be an animal in a Jewish dominated world, and we already know what happens in a Christian dominated world; it automatically ends up as a Jewish-dominated world. That’s what happens when you revere Jewish scripture as holy.

• **Replies:** @GoySoy2
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

45. Dieter Kief says:
August 12, 2025 at 2:12 pm GMT • 7.6 hours ago • 200 Words ↑
@Abdul Alhazred
Werther – was the part in himself – the whiny, self-centered, romanticist, teenagerly unripe young Goethe he – described in the novella in all his futile longing and women-courting and supersweet grandiose! ways – the parts of him that he had to let go – – and he did: By – killing the ficticious Werther through *his own hands*: the hands of Goethe and – the ficticious hands of Werther as well…

Unripe and self-centered grandiosity was what Napopleon understood well as the root cause of a bad strategist's character – so he had good reason to love this book. Napoleon invited Goethe over when he was fighting the Prussian army in nearby Auerstedt and they talked in Napoleon's tent near the battlefield.

(- If only Hitler had not read Nietzsche, but rather – Goehte's Werther . . .)

PS

Goethe wrote the book that was read all over Europe in just two weeks. – And he later said, it was not much of an achievement for him. – – – *Captatio benevolentiae?* // Truth?

– Truth in that it was so easy for him to write *Werther* that he could easiliy talk very ironically about it later on… – One caveat: Some readers did kill themelves after reading *Werther* – what added gravitas to the case – and made it even more flamboyant…

• **Replies:** @anon
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

46. Wayne Lusvardi says:
August 12, 2025 at 2:25 pm GMT • 7.4 hours ago • 200 Words ↑
@anonymous
The 10 commandments are for the so-called proletariat not the rulers who can lie, steal, defame, and murder with impunity. That is what is wrong with the 10 commandments. Curiously, why does the 10 commandments omit lying?

Or why does the 10 commandments omit "facilitating" murder? Example: According to the fictional story of King David, Bathsheba and Nathan, David did not kill Bathsheba's husband so he could sleep with his wife, rather he facilitated his death by sending Uriah to the front lines of a war. Murder is sanctioned but not facilitation of murder which is what the powerful do. The 1o commandments are for the powerless not the powerful. And why do the Christian scriptures say Jewish law is a "curse?" Because law creates crime.

Just like California governor Newsom did not light a match to start the infamous Palisades fires, but he intentionally withheld an early strike force team that could have stopped the fire from spreading, and he assisted homeless people to move from Los Angeles to camp in the area where the fire started, and he did nothing to assure the nearby reservoir was full and not shut down to reduce bird droppings into the water, etc. etc. etc. BTW, there was no amount of water that could have stopped that fire because if everyone started wetting their roofs, the water pressure would have dropped to zero. And the fire melted the metal on cars (1000 degrees).

• **Replies:** @TGD
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

Subscribe to New Columns
47. Wayne Lusvardi says:
August 12, 2025 at 2:35 pm GMT • 7.2 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Rob misek
Mr. Rob
Do you know that Solzhenitsyn invented the Gulags? He was a Russian soldier who committed treason by writing in a letter that he hated Stalin and the war – which is treason for a soldier to do. Most of those incarcerated during the war were treasonous soldiers escaping the frontlines. They were cowards who did not want to fight against the Nazis. Solzhenitsyn was put in a cushy encampment and was not required to do hard labor. He had time and resources to write all his fictional books of revenge against Stalin. But British Intelligence invented the Cold War to keep Russia from becoming an ally of the US. That is why James Bond movies are about a British spy vs. Russia. This is well known outside the US.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

48. Alanchik says:
August 12, 2025 at 2:41 pm GMT • 7.1 hours ago • 200 Words ↑
Atwill is right to see Catcher in the Rye as carrying an initiatory skeleton — but Freemasonry is only part of the picture. It's a mid-tier management guild, not the architect.

The symbolic steps he's mapping didn't originate with 18th-century lodges; they're fragments of a much older control architecture. Freemasonry, along with other fraternities and "secret" orders, serves as a carrier for that architecture — preserving ritual sequences and symbols that ultimately serve an upstream intelligence. This isn't just an elite social network; it's part of a metaphysical operating system designed to manage perception, regulate access to knowledge, and keep humanity in a closed feedback loop.

That's why these patterns appear across literature, film, politics, and religion. The same "code" is being run in multiple domains — not because Masons control every writer's room, but because the cultural overlay itself draws from this root program. Catcher works on two levels:
• For insiders — it signals alignment through recognizable steps and symbols.
• For everyone else — it acclimates the mind to hidden hierarchy without conscious awareness.

So yes, Atwill's Masonic reading is a valid layer. But if we stop there, we mistake the mask for the face. The blueprint is older, the hierarchy deeper, and the real "keeper of the rye" is the system running the overlay itself.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

49. GoySoy2 says:
August 12, 2025 at 2:45 pm GMT • 7.1 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Abhuman
Since you are a buddhist, lets see if buddhism is derived from Gnosticism (many early Christians) or not:

Gnosis (knowledge)

Gnostics generally believed the soul (or a spark of the divine) undergoes cycles of birth, death, and rebirth until it achieves spiritual enlightenment and liberation from the material world.

The goal, according to Gnostics, was to achieve gnosis (spiritual knowledge or insight) that would allow the soul to transcend the material world and return to the Pleroma (the realm of pure divinity).

For many, vegetarianism was seen as a way to achieve a higher spiritual state by rejecting the material world and its associated violence.

• **Thanks:** Dieter Kief
• **Replies:** @Abhuman
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

50. ariadna says:
August 12, 2025 at 3:07 pm GMT • 6.7 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@anonymous
The Herzl "quote" is a clumsy fake.
I mock the ridiculous impersonations of White Christians by Jews, which are always over the top, like those who purport to rail "patriotically" against the population replacement (never acknowledging who the mastermind is) by the huge influx of unwelcome, unassimilable third world Muslims, and invariably end up in maniacal hateful rants against the Palestinians, denying the genocide.
Some quotes attributed to some Jews, like this one, are equally stupidly clumsy fakes. For starters, there is no need to make up fake quotes: there are plenty of documented statements by Jews— rabbis, ideologues, politicians– that demonstrate judaic deceit and lethal hostility to non-Jews.
Second, Herzl (whose name is even misspelled in the fake quote) would not gloat so crudely about fooling the "non-Jewish pigs." He would talk in lofty terms about the long-delayed "justice" ardently aspired to by the always suffering Jews.

• **Agree:** PF
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

51. Anon[354] • Disclaimer says:
August 12, 2025 at 3:12 pm GMT • 6.6 hours ago • 200 Words ↑
Thanks, never could see the point of that book. Now I get it, Salinger at Camp Ritchie and postwar counterintelligence work, big splash for a mediocre barely-there writer. Red-herring esoterica for paranoiacs.

CIA used the Turner Diaries the same way, planting it on lone nuts to mark them as evildoers. They had McVeigh make a major production of calling the author repeatedly for a copy. And one of their half-dozen Atttas made a big histrionic deal of using crop dusters to deliver WMD. The Turner Diaries was inspired by, or if you prefer commissioned by, decorated intelligence grump Revilo .P. Oliver, who went so far as to supply a manuscript as a template. Guess Catcher in the Rye they did in-house.

But the thesis here is, Lennon got shot for apostacy to his secret society, and not for his two decades of peace subversion? On the basis of one ambiguous word in high-profile domestic CIA agent proto-Epstein Hefner's girlie magazine? In the 9/80 Playboy article Lennon didn't say he didn't want to continue being a craftsman, he said, "I respect craftsmen, but I am not interested in becoming one." Elsewhere in that interview he used craftsman as a pejorative for lack of inspiration. Yoko supplied the analogy of art v. mechanical drawing and John went with it.

I know Masons. I got recruited by Masons. Masons don't shoot you, and if they do they don't get away with it. CIA does.

52. anon[256] • Disclaimer says:
@Dieter Kief
TIL. Thank you very much for sharing this. Very interesting.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

53. Looger says:
August 12, 2025 at 4:10 pm GMT • 5.6 hours ago • 300 Words ↑
@Andrew A.

> Lost me at Lee Harvey Oswald assassinating JFK. Nope.

1) Oswald was involved in the plot, even if only to be a patsy.

2) it's likely that the book was planted on him or given to him BECAUSE he was involved in a spook assassination plot.

Neither of those have to mean that Oswald killed Kennedy alone, which is the basis for the official story.

This kind of, I hate to describe it as "dialectic" -maybe "false dichotomy" thinking is why the normies can't see the forest for the trees. It's why people can't get their minds around what's being done to us en masse.

An example is the moon landing.

[MORE]

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

54. Zumbuddi says:
@Anon
Salinger was a Ritchie Boy?

Links to more information?

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

55. A_Hand_Hidden says:
August 12, 2025 at 4:28 pm GMT • 5.3 hours ago • 600 Words ↑
It's unlikely the jew Salinger wrote TCITR. He was of lower IQ and dropped out of university after one semester. What he did have going for him was his race, and his intel connections during WW2 where he served as a counter-intelligence agent.

When the CIA was birthed in '47 they soon began what can be termed Operation Chaos, to continually mind-stir the population thus make them more malleable and controllable. Target division and fracturing yields control. Looking for an agent to front one of their projects, Salinger was an obvious choice due to his dabbling in attempted writing.

The book being found in the possession of alleged assassins is simply a tell, a statement on the real hidden hand behind the death in question. The book produces no killers, although it is purposely written by CIA script central to be disturbing; and the reason it exploded into popularity is precisely because it was promoted using CIA money and contacts. They wrote it for a purpose, and naturally wanted it to have wide exposure.

Sounds crazy? Read this.

> One of the most remarkable things about Abstract Expressionism was the speed with which it rose to international prominence. Although the artists associated with it took a long time to find their signature styles, once the movement had crystallised, by the late '40s, it rapidly achieved first notoriety and then respect.

CIA formally established 1947. Late 40s. When you have the $$$ and thousands of assets placed in the media, forcing your will onto the inchoate minds of the hapless population is oh so simple. A matter of repetition and mass media.

> To pursue its underground interest in America's lefty avant-garde, the CIA had to be sure its patronage could not be discovered. "Matters of this sort could only have been done at two or three removes," Mr Jameson explained, "so that there wouldn't be any question of having to clear Jackson Pollock, for example, or do anything that would involve these people in the organisation. And it couldn't have been any closer, because most of them were people who had very little respect for the government, in particular, and certainly none for the CIA. If you had to use people who considered themselves one way or another to be closer to Moscow than to Washington, well, so much the better perhaps."

> David Anfam is more circumspect. He says it is “a well-documented fact” that the CIA co-opted Abstract Expressionism in their propaganda war against Russia. “Even The New American Painting [exhibition] had some CIA funding behind it,” he says. According to Anfam, it is easy to see why the CIA wished to promote Abstract Expressionism. “It’s a very shrewd and cynical strategy,” he explains, “because it showed that you could do whatever you liked in America.” By the ‘50s, Abstract Expressionism was bound up with the concept of individual freedom: its canvases were understood as expressions of the subjective inner lives of the artists who painted them.

So when you see art that repulses you because it’s so damn ugly, an assault to your mind and senses, be it architecture, paintings, sculpture, or literature, know a few things:

1) You’re not behind the times, the “art” is fake and gay and designed to elicit negative emotion.
2) There is a motive force intentional behind it. A hidden hand if you will.
And best of all:
3) You’re paying to be assaulted via your own tax levies.

Come to think of it, that’s also true for the illegal alien invasion, the constant build out of the police and surveillance state… it’s really quite remarkable.

• **Replies:** @Notsofast
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

56. Kingfelix says:
Appalling garbage.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

57. Emslander says:
August 12, 2025 at 5:13 pm GMT • 4.6 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Brás Cubas
Francisco Franco, Spanish Caudillo, believed that Freemasonry was at the bottom of every national and international plot to confuse and destroy Christianity. He was regularly ridiculed for his belief and wrote a book to explain it all, but finally stopped talking about it.

He was viciously anti-Communist, but saved his strongest antipathy for Freemasonry, which he credited with being at the root of Communism.

• **Replies:** @Brás Cubas
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

58. Notsofast says:
August 12, 2025 at 5:58 pm GMT • 3.8 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@A_Hand_Hidden
interesting analysis, the c.i.a. and it's equally ugly, evil manitou twin, israel, born into the world around the same time. both of these monsters born fully grown and hit the ground running. this is also the time that television becomes part of our lives and george orwell writes of the telescreen in 1984.

operation overcast morphing into operation paperclip, at ft. detrick and then into m.k. ultra. ken keyes, one flew over the cuckoo's nest, merry pranksters, charlie manson and the rabbit hole goes down and down.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

59. Abhuman says:
August 12, 2025 at 6:09 pm GMT • 3.7 hours ago • 300 Words ↑
@GoySoy2
I cannot speak for all Buddhists of course. Most Buddhists don't believe in souls, although many believe in storehouse conciousness (which is akin to RAM for karma). So, rather than a soul reincarnating, our thinking is more analagous to the idea of a successor being inheriting the karma of a predecessor being. Between lives (apart from the persistent imformation contained in storehouse conciousness), there will be times when death is absolute with no surviving soul. This doesn't rule out the possibility of NDE's or anything like that, but if NDE's are real, to the Buddhist way of thinking, the NDE body would be a new body that inherited the karma of the previous body, and at some point even that body will die absolutely and there will be periods of absolute individual death between the death of that body and the birth of consciousness in the new body when rebirth takes place.

I really haven't take a poll of most Buddhists. My own view of liberation is that the enlightened being does not go on to any kind of permanent existence. Once a Buddha is dead, he is dead, and there is no return to anything or merging with anything. In a way you can think of reality fulfilling it's own purpose, and the individual is no longer needed. The enlightened are happy to be a part of this process, having no selfish desires.

Some Buddhsits believe that there is more to the picture, so I keep an open mind.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

60. Anonymous[317] • Disclaimer says:
    @Anon
    I always thought the purpose of this book was to get me to hate English class and put me to sleep.

    It worked on both counts.

    • **Replies:** @Looger
    ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

61. Mick Jagger Gathers no mosque says:
    August 12, 2025 at 6:47 pm GMT • 3.0 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
    Later that night, as he is trying to go to sleep, Salinger shows his awareness of the typology in the Gospels with his reference to the story of the Demon of Gadara, from Mark 5:1-20

    Sorry Gnostic Joe

    You are wrong about the Gospel of Mark and free masonry which was formed more than 16 centuries- CENTURIES- after Mark wrote his Gospel

    • **Replies:** @Looger
    ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

62. anon[619] • Disclaimer says:
August 12, 2025 at 7:00 pm GMT • 2.8 hours ago • 300 Words ↑
@anonymous
Obvious fakery and bs such as yours is a known method of undermining critical look at certain public personas. That you threw in Khomeini in there gave the game away. You write a complete laugh track nonsense about his biological father being a freemason to cover the fact that the "Islamic Revolution" in Iran was hugely supported by the *Grand Orient de France*.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Orient_de_France

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-revolution-anniversary-france-idUSKCN1PP2OI/

FACTS:

1 – Khomeini was permitted to conduct political activities as a private citizen against "an ally" of France in a Paris suburb. He had not requested asylum and it is not "normal" for sovereign nations to permit dissidents to conduct a very public campaign against a nominal ally (Iran), but this "private citizen" was permitted this and more.

2 – Khomeini's PR handlers in France were to a man arrivals from USA. Ghotbzadeh and Yazdi.

3 – Khomeini was flown in on the Flag Carrier of France, Air France, piloted and crewed by French nationals. This was done so that any attack by Imperial Iranian Air Force (to prevent the return of this **Agent of Chaos**) on the plane could be potentially construed as 'an act of war against France'.

4 – "Islamic Iran" sports a **PYRAMID (yes!) with 33 windows for its 'National Assembly'**.

Checkout the 'Square and Compass' design of the interior!

So yeah. We call BS on your Herzl and Khomeini's "daddy" but we all know who is their 'geopolitical' "Father".

• **Thanks:** Another Polish Perspective, A_Hand_Hidden
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

63. Looger says:
August 12, 2025 at 7:31 pm GMT • 2.3 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Anonymous

> I always thought the purpose of this book was to get me to hate English class and put me to sleep.
>
> It worked on both counts.

“Wuthering Heights, “Moonfleet,” “Hiroshima,” “My Family and Other Animals,” “The Rats of Nimh,” “Chrysalis,” “The Grapes of Wrath,” and all the non-tragically ending Shakespeare plays just called. They want their jobs back.

I’m sure there are more but who remembers.

I’ll say this for “Lord of the Flies” and “Heart of Darkness” and even “1984” – at least something happens in those books.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

64. Hulkamania says:
August 12, 2025 at 7:32 pm GMT • 2.3 hours ago • 300 Words ↑

> As I interpret the passage, “Fuck You” is an oath taken to the death by all Masons in the high levels– it will be on their gravestones. Notice that there is no place on earth that one can escape this curse, indicating that the goal of the organization to have the planet to itself.

Using the author’s interpretation of the museum being a masonic temple and the tomb being the “holy of holies” within the temple, it should be noted that the “holy of holies” is supposed to hold the spirit or presence of god. Jews call this presence of god “shekhinah.”

Within kabbalah, shekhinah is said to be the female aspect of god. Shekhinah is also said to reside within the so-called “Western Wall” in Jerusalem because the “holy of holies” is in the western part of masonic/solomonic temples, as the author states above. If you watch the Jews “pray” at the wailing wall, they do a sort of dance where they bob forward and back swaying their hips. This is actually meant to simulate sexual intercourse with shekhinah, the female aspect of god (in other words, this “prayer” is fucking god). So, this may also explain the “fuck you” in the “holy of holies” tomb in this book, as a literal “fuck you” to God.

Ultimately, “fuck you, God” is the basis of Judaism (and of its goyim offshoots like masonry). Jews believe that God betrayed them, so they resent God. Because of this, they decided that they would become their own god and that they would humiliate God (as they tried to humiliate Jesus on the cross). The shekhinah dance is a dominance display, meant to show that Jews are above God, like a dog humping things to show dominance.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

65. Brás Cubas says:
@Emslander
Of course the Catholic Church, being itself a Secret Society which once aimed at ruling the world, would be at the forefront of the war against other secret societies.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

66. chris says:
@Tennessee Jed
Great testimonial, TJ; thanks!

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

67. Looger says:
August 12, 2025 at 7:41 pm GMT • 2.1 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Mick Jagger Gathers no mosque

> You are wrong about the Gospel of Mark and free masonry which was formed more than 16 centuries- CENTURIES- after Mark wrote his Gospel

I don't know enough about Salinger or theology or the Gospels to definitively 'know' anything Atwill claims.

But to deny the existence of the mystery school religion / secret society template going back into antiquity just because the United Grand Lodge of England is only from 1607 or whatever (12 centuries after?), I believe is foolish.

Plato even mentioned his distant ancestor Solon being inducted into secret knowledge under the Great Pyramid (recent news about that I think), what was that 400 years before him? 900 BC?

This shit is old.

It gets a facelift once in awhile.

Manly P. Hall anyone…?

"Mystery Babylon" series by Bill Cooper?

• **Replies:** @Mick Jagger Gathers no mosque
ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

68. Concerned Observer says:
August 12, 2025 at 8:02 pm GMT • 1.8 hours ago • 300 Words ↑
JFK assassination researcher John Newman, who has written on / off volumes about that event over the past decade or more (it's a series of books which is taking forever) got fairly excited online a couple of years back when he observed that a lot of the Pentagon / military folk hanging around in the background in 1963 looking spookily at Kennedy from the shadows, were Freemasons, and Lyman Lemnitzer, the Northwoods guy who went to Italy for a bit and was hanging around folk who were talking about coups and assassinations and plots ad nauseam, was a Freemason. He felt all this was going somewhere and at the time I thought, jeez, Freemason stuff in the Kennedy assassination, ok, I'll keep an eye out, let us know when you finish the book John.

He's still writing but I think his whole series has been superseded by the work of Cory Hughes, Ryan Dawson, the first half of Piper's FINAL JUDGEMENT, and Monika Wiesak's new book (the latter of which has good reviews from some veteran JFK researchers), all of which basically say, uh, actually, I'm pretty sure it was Ben Gurion and the Zionist Jews who did this one fellas. The whole 'mystery' of JFK is easier to solve when you zoom out and look at who was doing endless terrorist bombings, assassinations, plots and despicable crimes in the decades before and after, and who wasn'. The US did their major share, sure, but Israel matches them and by all accounts was in an even shittier mood in 1963. Kennedy gets killed and Johnson may have well put up a billboard for the rest of his Presidency with letters reading PRO ISRAEL as big as the Hollywood sign, so the only effort then required for decades later is how many Jews you need working in the media to keep covering it up.

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

69. Mick Jagger Gathers no mosque says:
August 12, 2025 at 8:39 pm GMT • 1.2 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Looger
It's evident that many writers/ write backers here gainsay the scriptures and say they are fiction but then turn around and quote secular non- Christian sources with a certitude that could make a Southern Baptist blush

Much (most) of the claims about scripture are conspiratorial and flat-out psychotic eisegesis not exegesis

The naughtiness, haughtiness and ignorance of the men who compile these posts is painfully obvious to those who have read Augustine, Chrysostom, Tertullian, Aquinas etc etc all of whom are possessed of intellects that establish a galactic distance to what they teach about Scripture and the crazy claims made about scripture on this site.

Mr. Unz is an intelligent man

I'd be fun to hear what he truly thinks about the claims of the Bible made by those he publishes, from Mr Guyenot (sp.error likely) to this man

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

70. TGD says:
August 12, 2025 at 8:41 pm GMT • 1.1 hours ago • 100 Words ↑
@Wayne Lusvardi
Lusvardi wrote:

> Curiously, why does the 10 commandments omit lying?

The Torah writers cribbed the "10 Commandments" from the 42 negative confessions found in the "Egyptian Book of the Dead."

And confession 8 states: *Hail, Neba, who comest and goest, I have not uttered lies.*

As to why the elder Hebes omitted to copy that confession, I believe that it would hit too close to home.

https://www.worldhistory.org/The_Negative_Confession/

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

71. A_Hand_Hidden says:
August 12, 2025 at 8:56 pm GMT • 53 minutes ago • 100 Words ↑
@Leif
I've got a PDF of *The Complete Diaries of T H E O D O R H E R Z L* and a search brought up 3 references to masonry but none of particular interest.

Chat 5.0 can't find a source and says this, in part:

> In contrast, Herzl's well-documented writings—including Der Judenstaat (The Jewish State), his diaries, and Altneuland—focus squarely on Zionism, Jewish emancipation, the Jewish question, and the political mobilization for a Jewish homeland. Extensive collections like Wikiquote, Jewish Virtual Library, and scholarly editions of his diaries and letters do not include any commentary about Freemasonry

ReplyAgree/Disagree/Etc. This Commenter

← The Roman Invention of Jesus
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